

**Lake County**  
**Emergency Management Agency**

July 29, 2013  
News Release # 6  
Kenneth R. Gauntner Jr.  
Lake County PIO  
440-918-5413

Time: 3:20 p.m

**Lake County Local State of Emergency Still In Effect**

Kirtland, OH. - The Local State of Emergency declared in Lake County on July 23, 2013 by the Board of Lake County Commissioners is still in effect as of today. This emergency declaration by the Board of Lake County Commissioners was declared because of heavy rains and flooding that hit Lake County in the early morning hours of July 20<sup>th</sup>. At this time Lake County is only under a Local State of Emergency. **There is no Federal Disaster Declaration from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).** FEMA currently is not involved in the Lake County flood emergency. The American Red Cross and Lake County EMA officials continue to gather the necessary damage assessment information required by FEMA in hope of receiving a Federal Disaster Declaration.

This morning at 10:00 a.m, Lake County Emergency Management Director Larry Greene held a conference call with local officials in various Lake County communities affected by last weekends flooding. This conference call was to update community leaders on what has taken place regarding emergency response to the flood event. Representatives from the American Red Cross, Citizen Corp, Lake County Department of Utilities, Lake County Commissioners, Lake County Council on Aging, and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency participated in the phone discussion.

The American Red Cross reported that they have conducted damage assessments on over 3,500 homes in Lake County since last week. Their damage assessments continue, as they try to find homes that have severe structural damage from the flood waters. If a resident has a home or business that has received severe structural damage, and has not yet been assessed by the Red Cross Damage Assessment Team, they are asked to call the "211 Information Line", or their local city hall. This information is critical in the County's effort to solicit State and/or Federal aid.

Additionally, a Public Assistance Officer from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency updated local leaders on the reimbursement criteria for local governmental entities through the "State Disaster Relief Program" (SDRP). This program would be state funds that could be made available through the governor's office should a Federal Disaster Declaration not be met. This special fund is for reimbursement to local cities, villages and townships for their clean up and infrastructure repairs. The SDRP fund is only for governmental entities and eligible private non-profit organizations.

Clean up from the July 20<sup>th</sup> storm continues mainly in the west end communities of Lake County. The Lake County Solid Waste Facility located at 2039 Blasé-Nemeth Road in Painesville Township continues to have extended operating hours through the end of this week, so that residents and businesses can dispose of flood damaged items at no cost. The City of Willowick continues to have a large volume of flood damaged items placed on their tree lawns. Mayor Richard Bonde from the City of Willowick reported in today's phone conference that the city had picked up every street as of last Friday July 26<sup>th</sup>. However, as of this morning, more flood damaged debris appeared on the tree lawns over the weekend. Mayor Bonde is asking for assistance from other governmental service departments that may be able to assist Willowick in debris clean up.

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***Board Of Commissioners***

***Robert E. Aufuldish, Judy Moran, Daniel P. Troy***